



COUNCIL DISTRICT

FRYE LIGHTS

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VOLUME VII ISSUE I

A New Year message from Donna

Happy New Year!

As we begin 2009 with four newly elected Councilmembers and fresh hopes for creative solutions to the many challenges facing our City, my staff and I want to thank all of you in District Six who have done your part, in your own way, to help make San Diego a better place in which to live, work and play.

To continue what has become an annual tradition in my Office, we're saying goodbye to last year and welcoming the next by bringing you a mostly photographic edition of *Frye Lights*. We want to highlight some of the memorable moments and events of 2008 that continue to make me proud to represent you on the San Diego City Council.

I wish all of you joy, peace and abundance in this New Year. Together let's make 2009 the best yet!



Serving

Bay Ho

Bay Park

Birdland

De Anza

Clairemont

Kearny Mesa

Linda Vista

Mission Valley

Mission Bay Park

Mission Village

Morena

Serra Mesa

Hawaiian darlings

Aug. 2: These adorable girls and their families were part of the festive Na Mea Hana Lima Hawaiian Cultural Fair on Mission Bay. Donna welcomed the participants with an official greeting and was presented a Hawaiian lei in a gesture of appreciation and goodwill.



Sharing a story

Oct. 24: Donna's visit to Linda Vista's San Diego Cooperative Charter School was a big hit with the grade-schoolers and their teachers.

Students asked about water pollution, how government works and why elections are important.

After hugs all around, Donna promised to visit again soon.

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Getting a bike path rolling

Jan. 17: Donna joins City officials and leaders of the San Diego River Coalition in a groundbreaking to begin construction of a one-mile segment of bike path along the river's southern shore between Ocean Beach and Hotel Circle. After numerous delays, work on the path is back on track and is scheduled to be completed in Spring 2009.



Planting seeds for the future

Jan. 24: Administrators and teachers at Linda Vista's Montgomery Middle School welcomed Donna to help launch the opening of the school's community garden. The garden project is intended to provide valuable lessons to students for many years to come.

Mission Valley tank farm fined \$222,000 by regional water board

Operators of a large fuel terminal near Qualcomm Stadium were fined \$222,000 last month for failing to adequately clean water being treated and discharged into Murphy Canyon Creek, a tributary of the San Diego River.

The San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board issued the penalty Dec. 10 to SFPP LP, a subsidiary of Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, a major national operator of fuel pipelines, tanks and terminals.

The agency cited more than 30 "serious" or "chronic" violations at the Mission Valley terminal from 2006 to 2008. Excessive levels of nitrogen and other pollutants were repeatedly found in water pumped from the underground aquifer, treated, then discharged into Murphy Canyon Creek.

Kinder Morgan did not contest the fine, \$16,600 of which will be waived if a treatment-system upgrade now being installed is in operation by February.

"We feel this (waiver) is fair, given the effort by the discharger to design and install the system," Jeremy Haas, an environmental scientist with the board's compliance unit, told the panel.

The board initially issued cleanup orders for the terminal in 1992, when it was owned by a different operator. The 29-tank facility near Friars Road and Interstate 15 was estimated to have leaked possibly hundreds of thousands of gallons of petroleum products and additives into the aquifer beneath it from the 1980s to early '90s.

Kinder Morgan inherited the pollution and cleanup mandate when it purchased the tank farm in 1998. Spokeswoman Emily Thompson said the firm is doing all it can to decontaminate the aquifer and protect the nearby San Diego River.

The City of San Diego sued Kinder Morgan in 2007 to speed the cleanup. Settlement talks appear to have stalled, and a deputy city attorney assigned to the case said it may have to go to trial.

In a Nov. 18 letter to the regional board, Marsi Steirer, San Diego Water Department Deputy Director, said the firm's cleanup efforts have been "only grudgingly provided."

"Kinder Morgan has yet to pay one cent of penalties as a result of this pattern of non-compliance, and, as a result, has found it to be more cost-effective to ignore the RWQCB's orders than to observe them," she wrote.

In response to inquiries from Councilmember Donna Frye's office, Steirer said the aquifer under the terminal is one of the largest in San Diego. It is estimated to be capable of producing up to 2 million gallons of water a day, enough to serve 4,000 households, she said.

Richard Oppen, a private attorney representing the City, praised the board at last month's hearing for issuing the six-figure fine.

"The City really feels this is the kind of regulatory focus that is needed," he said. "We look forward to sharp regulatory scrutiny over a very important release."



Gratitude for a watchdog journalist

Feb. 4: Donna shares a hug and offers a big thank-you to veteran journalist Don Bauder of the *San Diego Reader*. Bauder was a former longtime business columnist at *The San Diego Union-Tribune* before moving to the *Reader* several years ago. He continues his decades-long mission of exposing corruption, scams and shysters.



Examining the law

Jan. 29: Donna took part in a panel discussion at San Diego's Thomas Jefferson School of Law about legal issues and women in politics.

A green way to bid the holiday farewell: Recycle that tree!

The Environmental Services Department is hosting the City's 35th annual Christmas tree recycling program through Jan. 23. The program, which began Dec. 26, offers 16 drop-off locations throughout the City, as well as curbside pickup for residents with yard waste collection.

"Recycling Christmas trees is an important way for San Diegans to help the environment and extend the life of the Miramar Landfill," said Chris Gonaver, Environmental Services director. "Historically, yard clippings and other organic materials, such as Christmas trees, have made up over 20 percent of the material buried in the landfill."

Trees from commercial lots or fundraising projects will not be accepted at the holiday drop-off sites. San Diegans can recycle Christmas trees and other green waste year-round at the Miramar Greenery at the Miramar Landfill, 5180 Convoy St.

Anyone recycling Christmas trees should remove all stands, lights, ornaments and decorations. Flocked (fake snow) trees are acceptable. The trees are ground into mulch and compost, available year-round to City residents for free if self-loaded at the Miramar Greenery.

The holiday drop-off sites include one in District Six, at SeaWorld Drive and Pacific Highway. For the complete list, visit <http://www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/recycling/christmas.shtml>, or call Environmental Services at (858) 694-7000.





Making a pitch

March 1: Donna winds up and tosses the first pitch on opening day of the Clairemont Girls Fast Pitch Softball League.

Rummaging for a good cause

March 1: Donna shops for treasures among donated items at a rummage sale to benefit Brian Welsh, a Bay Park resident whose cancer treatment had put him out of work and caused his family severe financial hardship. The event, sponsored by Clairemont businesses and community groups, raised \$14,000 for the family.



Mosaic tile project to raise funds for Bayside Community Center

As part of their annual conference scheduled in March in San Diego, members of the Society of American Mosaic Artists will create a “large-scale mosaic masterpiece” and donate it to Linda Vista’s Bayside Community Center.

Under the direction of renowned mosaic artist Elizabeth Raybee of Potter Valley, Calif., conference participants will create three mosaic-tile works to be permanently displayed at Bayside. One will depict Bayside’s history dating to 1932. Another will feature “senior lady” volunteers with the American flag. The third will evoke the “3,000 homes in 300 days” legacy of the WWII Linda Vista Housing Development.

Organizers hope to raise \$50,000 for the center through donations for the various tiles. Bayside provides a wide range of community services. For more information visit www.baysideecc.org or call center Director Jorge Riquelme at (858) 278-0771



Lowell's shelter

March 22: Donna spoke at the opening of a bus shelter at Sharp Hospital dedicated to Serra Mesa resident Lowell Farris. Lowell, who commuted to the hospital often, would clean trash and pick weeds at the formerly unsheltered stop. He lobbied the City Council, the Metropolitan Transit Board and the hospital for a structure to protect riders from the sun and rain. Lowell died before he saw those efforts materialize, but the shelter bears a plaque in his memory.



Helping kids make a run for their money

April 11: Donna was an honored guest at Clairemont's Holmes Elementary School — her alma mater — for the second annual Holmes Education Run Off. Students solicited pledges for the fundraising run, bringing in more than \$32,000 for campus improvements.

Free class offered on drought-resistant plants

California Friendly and The City of San Diego Water Department are offering a free class on native plants this month to help gardeners save water -- and money -- in their home landscaping.

The class, California Friendly and Native Plants, will be 8:30 a.m. to noon Saturday Jan. 10 at the Balboa Park Recital Hall in the park's Palisades Building.

Presented in conjunction with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, the class will focus on native plants and other vegetation appropriate to our semi-arid climate.

Anyone wishing to attend must call (619) 570-1999 to reserve a spot. Additional information and other class offerings, topics, dates and times can be found at <http://www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation/waterwiseclasses>.

World cultures showcased in downtown event

Celebrate cultures from around the world at the 11th annual San Diego Multicultural Festival 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday Jan. 17 in downtown San Diego.

The free event will include storytellers, musicians, activities and a variety of food, merchant and educational booths.

Students from three local schools will construct Global Villages, displaying international customs and cultures they have studied in depth.

A new addition is the Downtown Education Fair, a special section of booths showcasing unique learning opportunities in the center City.

This family-friendly festival will take place along the Martin Luther King Jr. Promenade, on Harbor Drive between Market Street and Fourth Avenue.

For more information, visit www.ccdc.com and click on Special Events.



River partners

April 18: Donna joined City and state officials at Mission Trails Regional Park to commemorate a partnership between San Diego State University, the San Diego River Conservancy and the San Diego River Park Foundation. The agreement launched wide-ranging programs to manage and protect the watershed.



Cultural role models

April 26: Donna honored award-winning students at Linda Vista's 23rd annual Multi-Cultural Fair & Parade.



Tuxedoed VIPs

April 29: A pair of penguins from SeaWorld came to the City Council for a proclamation marking May 2008 as "SeaWorld of San Diego Penguin Encounter Anniversary Month." The Mission Bay aquatic park opened its Arctic Penguin Encounter attraction in May 1983.



Water winners

May 5: The City Council recognized students from local elementary schools who created the winning posters for a contest to show ways to save water. Their posters illustrate the City's 2009 Water Conservation Calendar.



Kumeyaay blessing

May 3: Donna shares a tender moment — and the sweet scent of bundled sage — with Kumeyaay elder Jane Dumas of the East County's Jamul Indian Village. Earlier, Dumas offered the opening prayer for the first Mesa College Canyon Day, a community event highlighting the canyon's natural beauty and recognizing it as an educational and enjoyable resource for Clairemont, Linda Vista and the City at large. Councilmember Frye spearheaded the effort to create the event, which drew a large crowd and is intended to be marked annually.



River Day Walk

May 10: Donna helped rally the crowd in this annual event to celebrate the river's importance to the region and protect its ecological health.



A Taste of Morena

June 3: Donna joined Amber Wetzig (left), Nevin Kleege and Jerry Adams at the Morena Business Association's second annual event showcasing the Morena District's dining and entertainment venues.

Pedaling a new path

June 6: Donna spins the spokes with Councilmember Kevin Faulconer, SeaWorld General Manager Andy Fichthorn and others to hail the opening of the South Shores Promenade and bike path on Mission Bay. The Promenade increases year-round shoreline access and provides an area for civic displays and public gatherings.



Donna Kiwana

July 9: After being inducted into the Kearny Mesa Kiwanis Club, Donna shares smiles and hugs with club Vice President Carl Hillenbrand (left), Board Member Doug Beckham and President Lance Haynes.

FRYE LIGHTS: CELEBRATING THE DISTRICT SIX SPIRIT



Happy median

June 30: Mayor Sanders helps Donna cut the ceremonial ribbon marking completion of the Balboa Avenue median improvement project.



Afghan celebration

Aug. 2: Councilmember Frye helped dedicate the permanent site of the Afghan Community Islamic Center at its grand opening in Serra Mesa. Since 1994, the center has been helping Afghani residents assimilate in San Diego, with financial assistance, education, community outreach and religious services.



Family day in Clairemont

Aug. 2: Donna posed with dancers Corley and Anna Mills and dance specialist Andrea Feier after members of the Civic Dance Arts Program performed during the annual Clairemont Family Day.



Long live "The King"

Sept. 12: At Councilmember Frye's request, the City Council declared Sept. 12, 2008, as George "King" Stahlman Day. A decorated World War II veteran, the longtime "king" of the local bail-bondsmen is known for his generosity in helping many San Diegans through tough times.

Thinking green!

Sept. 11: On a tour of the California Center for Sustainable Energy in Kearny Mesa, Councilmember Frye joined Irene Stillings, executive director of the center, at a statue made of recyclables to point out that the Average Joe throws out his own weight in recyclable materials each month.





Stop the toll road!

Sept. 22: Efforts by Councilmember Frye, the Save San Onofre Coalition and other local elected officials to block a proposed toll road through San Onofre State Beach ended successfully with a favorable federal ruling in December.



Bay mystery

Sept. 24: Councilmember Frye led the call for answers when large, smelly blobs started washing up on the shores of Mission Bay. It turned out to be large numbers of dead and decaying sea sponges. Scientists have yet to determine what caused the die-off.



Library hoopla

Oct. 18: Everybody hooped it up at the Clairemont Branch Library's 50th anniversary party. Donna offered her congratulations and shared some childhood memories of the place. Then it was time for fun and games, with a Hula-Hoop contest, face painting, music and reminiscing by longtime residents.



Clairemont birthday

Oct. 19: Though the actual date of its founding remains fuzzy, Clairemont threw itself an inaugural birthday bash. Much research resulted in a consensus that the pioneering planned community was founded on or about Oct. 16, 1950. Donna was happy to help salute the neighborhood she calls home.



Prop. 11 allies

Oct. 20: Councilmember Frye joined Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and many local leaders in urging passage of Proposition 11 on the November ballot. The measure, which passed, creates an independent citizens commission to draw state legislative districts.



Quarry Falls hearing

Oct. 21: The controversial Quarry Falls mixed-use project, which will bring 4,780 houses, apartments and condos to densely populated Mission Valley, was approved after several contentious hearings. Councilmember Frye, in whose district the massive project will be built, cast the lone dissenting vote.



Home cleanup

Oct. 31: Max Sturman, 88, was delighted when several local groups converged to spruce up his Clairemont house and yard. In cooperation with Rebuilding Together San Diego, the American Association of Retired Persons and Allied Waste Management, Councilmember Frye coordinated the effort, which included painting, planting, trimming and fence work.



Tourmaline dedication

Nov. 1: Donna joined her husband, the legendary surfer and surfboard shaper Skip Frye, along with Mayor Jerry Sanders, Councilmember Kevin Faulconer and scores of surfers and ocean lovers to dedicate a surfing monument at Tourmaline Canyon Surf Park.



Stretching watts

Nov. 20: Donna and Environmental Services staffers shared a laugh at a light-bulb exchange event at City Hall. Highly efficient light-emitting diode lights were handed out free in exchange for old, inefficient fluorescent bulbs and holiday strands.



Hmong New Year

Dec. 20: Hundreds of revelers, many dressed in colorful traditional costumes, rang in the Hmong New Year with a three-day celebration Dec. 20-22 at Kearny Mesa Park. The 34th annual event highlighted Hmong culture, customs, beliefs, literature, sports and entertainment. Councilmember Frye issued a commendation proclaiming Dec. 20, 2008, as "Lao Hmong Family Association Day in the Sixth District of the City of San Diego."



Important Phone Numbers

Abandoned Vehicles	858-495-7856
Animal Regulation	619-236-4250
Beach & Bay Advisory	619-338-2073
Birth and Death Records	619-237-0502
Brush Abatement	619-533-4444
Building Permits	619-446-5000
Buses/MTS Access	619-233-3004
Canyon Watchers Program	858-292-6484
City Council Docket Info	619-533-4000
City Directory	619-236-5555
Community Service Center	858-581-4111
Code Violations	619-236-5500
Curb Maintenance	619-527-7500
Dead Animal Removal	858-694-7000
Dog Licenses	619-767-2675
Fire Stations	619-533-4300
Graffiti	619-525-8522
Hazardous Materials Hotline	858-694-7000
Housing Commission	619-231-9400
Humane Society	619-299-7012
Libraries	
Balboa	858-573-1390
Clairemont	858-581-9935
Linda Vista	858-573-1399
Mission Valley	858-573-5000
North Clairemont	858-581-9931
Serra Mesa	858-573-1396
Noise Regulation	619-236-5500
Office of Small Business	619-685-1390
Park and Recreation	619-525-8219
Parking Citations	619-236-7145
Police: Non-Emergency	619-531-2000
Pot Hole Hotline	619-527-7500
Recreation Centers	
Kearny Mesa	858-573-1387
Linda Vista	858-573-1392
North Clairemont	858-581-9926
Serra Mesa	858-573-1408
South Clairemont	858-581-9924
Tecolote	858-581-9933
Recycling Hotline	858-694-7000
Senior Citizens Services	619-236-6905
Serra Mesa Community Connection	858-565-2473
Sewer Repair/Spills	619-515-3525
Sidewalk Maintenance	619-527-7500
Stormwater Pollution Hotline	619-235-1000
Street Lights	619-527-7500
Street Sweeping	619-527-7500
Traffic Control	619-533-3126
Tree Maintenance	619-527-7500
Waste Reduction & Disposal	858-492-5010
Water Emergency	619-515-3525
Water Utilities	619-515-3500

District Six Community Meetings

Balboa Avenue Citizens Advisory Committee

Place: Clairemont Community Service Center
4731 Clairemont Drive
When: 4th Wednesday/Month
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Clairemont Town Council

Place: Clairemont High School Cafeteria
4150 Ute Drive
When: 1st Thursday/Month
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Clairemont Mesa Planning Committee

Place: Clairemont Senior Friendship Center
4425 Bannock Ave.
When: 3rd Tuesday/Month
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Kearny Mesa Planning Group

Place: Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library
9005 Aero Drive
When: 3rd Wednesday/Month
Time: 12:00 p.m.

Linda Vista Town Council

Place: Bayside Community Center
2202 Comstock Street
When: 3rd Thursday/Month
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Linda Vista Community Planning Committee

Place: Linda Vista Library
2160 Ulric Street
When: 4th Monday/Month
Time: 6:00 p.m.

Mission Bay Park Committee

Place: Rotating Venue
When: 1st Tuesday/Month
Time: 6:00 p.m.

Mission Valley Community Council

Place: Mission Valley Library
2123 Fenton Parkway
When: 3rd Wednesday/Odd Months
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Mission Valley Unified Planning Committee

Place: Mission Valley Library
2123 Fenton Parkway
When: 1st Wednesday/Month
Time: 12:00 p.m.

Serra Mesa Community Council

Place: Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library
9005 Aero Drive
When: 4th Wednesday/Month
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Serra Mesa Planning Group

Place: Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library
9005 Aero Drive
When: 3rd Thursday/Month
Time: 7:00 p.m.



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FRYE LIGHTS: CELEBRATING THE DISTRICT SIX SPIRIT



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Register to receive updates & event information from Councilmember Frye
by signing up in the "Frye Lights" box at www.sandiego.gov/cd61